

AGENDA ITEM III C

PROPOSED NEW ACADEMIC PROGRAM

NUNEZ COMMUNITY COLLEGE

**CERTIFICATE OF APPLIED SCIENCE IN MEDICAL BILLING AND
CODING**

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STAFF SUMMARY

1. Need

Recent changes in health care delivery in the United States has resulted in an ever-increasing demand for qualified medical coders and billers. The Department of Business and Technology seeks to respond to that need by offering a new certificate program intended to train students desiring enough college credits to be successful on the national coding exam(s) offered by the American Academy of Professional Coders (AAPC). The proposal indicates that certified coders average \$10,000 per year more than non-certified coders.

2. Curriculum

The proposed new certificate program is a component of an existing Associate of Applied Science degree program in Health Services Office Management. The certificate involves 30 hours of coursework in coding and billing and related issues, plus 9 hours of general education courses. Total: 39 credit hours.

3. Resources

All of the courses necessary for the proposed certificate program are currently offered at the college.

STAFF ANALYSIS

The proposed certificate is a logical exit option in the A.A.S. in Health Services Office Management program and is compliant with Board of Regents Academic Affairs Policy 2.16 - Statewide General Education Requirements.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

The staff recommends that the Academic and Student Affairs Committee grant approval for the Certificate of Applied Science in Medical Billing and Coding (CIP Code 51.0713) at

Nunez Community College to begin Fall 2004.